

As an ex-officio member of the House Fine Arts Board, which serves as the clearinghouse for donations of House-related works of art, furniture and artifacts, I am pleased to support the acceptance of the portrait of Lindy Boggs by the House. I would also like to acknowledge Jan Schoonmaker and his efforts with the Lindy Boggs Portrait Committee in making this project a reality. This House has previously recognized the many contributions of Mrs. Boggs by naming a room in the Capitol in honor of her, and I think it is only fitting that the portrait will be hung in The Corrine Clairborne Boggs Room.

Therefore, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating former Representative and Ambassador Lindy Boggs on her receipt of this honor.

#### REGARDING CARY MEDICAL CENTER

### HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 23, 2004*

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Cary Medical Center not only for 80 years of community health care services to Aroostook County but for receiving the National Job Corps Association's 2004 Alpha Award in the Community Category.

The Cary Medical Center has played a unique and integral role in providing health services to the communities in Northern Maine. The Cary Medical Center offers a variety of excellent services to the people of Aroostook County. Its dietary department is one of the best in the country. Cary also has established itself as a leader in Community Health Education and Disease Prevention programs.

The Cary Medical Center also has superior veterans' services. The VA outpatient clinic was the first facility of its type in the nation, providing outpatient medical care for Aroostook veterans since 1987. It has over 6,000 patient visits per year.

The Cary Medical Center has been recognized by many organizations for its excellent service. In 1998, Cary Medical Center earned Accreditation with Commendation from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations, the highest rating attainable, placing Cary among the top 15 percent of hospitals in the nation in reference to nationally established guidelines on quality patient care.

More recently, the Center received the National Job Corps Association's 2004 Alpha Award in the Community Category. This is an extraordinary achievement: Cary Medical Center will be one of 6 winners out of 107 national nominations. The Alfa Award is given to individuals, organizations and employers who are dedicated to helping Job Corps students. CMC manages the Certified Nurses Assistant program for the Loring Job Corps. The hospital provides both classroom and clinical instruction for students who select the vocation.

Beyond excellent programs and the highest honors, perhaps the greatest achievement of all is the duration of service CMC has given to the community of Aroostook County. 80 years is a very long time to be serving people, and Northern Maine is surely a better place be-

cause of their contributions. I thank them for their dedication and service to the people of Maine, and commend them for this most recent award.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO DON SHEPPARD

### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 23, 2004*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Don Sheppard, a dedicated Colorado State Patrol Officer from Cortez, Colorado who recently retired after twenty-one years of service to the people of my state. His hard work and love for protecting his community over the years serves as a shining example of the character of our nation's law enforcement officers. It is my privilege to stand before this body of Congress and this nation today to recognize the career of Don Sheppard.

Don has compiled an impressive record in helping others. During Vietnam, he served in the U.S. Air Force as a communications specialist working with computers and cryptography. In 1979, he joined the Montezuma County Sheriff's office and then the Dolores County Sheriff's office. He attended the Colorado State Patrol Academy in 1983, and upon completion was assigned to the Cortez office of Troop 5A where he has served for twenty-one years.

Don has received many accolades throughout his law enforcement career for his professional and courteous service. He was an active, hard working officer who was responsible for removing more drunk drivers from the roads than any other trooper in 5A. He still holds the DUI arrest record for his area, ninety-one in a single year.

Mr. Speaker, Don Sheppard has dedicated his career to ensuring the safety and well being of Colorado citizens. His presence in the continuing efforts to fight drunk driving are especially commendable given that he has taken time away from his family and friends to face uncertain danger and unpredictable consequences. I am honored to stand here before this body and recognize the efforts of such an industrious public servant who will be sorely missed in Colorado. Good luck in your retirement Don, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

#### A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF NORTHWEST COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT AS IT CELEBRATES THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS FOUNDING IN JACKSON, MICHIGAN

### HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 23, 2004*

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Northwest Community School District in Jackson, Michigan as it celebrates fifty years of educational excellence in the Jackson community. Our current superintendent, Dennis Desmarais, as well as the

other administrators, teachers, support personnel, and the 25,000 residents and parents of the school district should all be proud of the lasting contribution they have made in shaping the lives of the young people in the Jackson area.

Northwest School District is one of Jackson County's largest school districts, and was established in 1954 when nineteen tiny districts consolidated to become Northwest Rural Agricultural Schools. By the time R. Willard Kidder became superintendent in 1955, more than 1100 students were enrolled in the district, and were transported to 23 buildings on nine buses. The next year, the school's student council chose the Mounties as the district's mascot, a name which was taken from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, symbolizing fairness, devotion, duty, and exemplary service. It was also at this time that red and black were adopted as the official school colors.

Mr. Kidder took over as Northwest's superintendent in 1956 when the original superintendent, Dr. Warran Randall, accepted a position in Hudson. Under Kidder's leadership, the school grew, the Northwest Junior-Senior High School, now R.W. Kidder Middle School, opened for students in grades five through nine in 1956. Enrollment continued to grow, and peaked at 4,200 when Mr. Kidder retired in 1972. In 1960, Flora List Elementary School opened for 700 students in kindergarten through sixth grade, and three years later, Parnall Elementary School opened on Lansing Avenue to accommodate another 900 students. In 1966, Mr. Kidder hired Mr. Joe Koziol to teach driver's education, and Mr. Koziol continued to serve the district for nearly four more decades as assistant principal in the 1970's and then as the district's superintendent from 1998 till 2002.

On behalf of the United States Congress, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to extend our highest praise and congratulations to the Northwest School District for its awards and academic honors as it marks the 50th anniversary of its founding.

#### COMMEMORATING THE OPENING OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN

### HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 23, 2004*

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a proud member of the House Native American Caucus, to celebrate the opening of the National Museum of the American Indian.

I also extend a warm welcome to the members from Wisconsin's seven tribes: the Oneida, Ojibwe, Ho Chunk, Stockbridge-Munsee, Menominee, Brothertown, and Potawatomi who have traveled to Washington, D.C. this week. They join the nearly twenty-thousand Native Americans, representing the nearly five-hundred state and federally recognized tribes, who have gathered here to celebrate the opening of the museum in the largest tribal gathering in our nation's history.

After 15 years of planning and five years of construction, the National Museum of the American Indian celebrates the traditions, diversity and vitality of America's first people. Located within reach of the Capitol dome on